(5) Bridle road was abandoned just on the eastern boundary of Poopara tea owing to its swampy condition and the path found its way through the cultivated tea.

(6) The bridge at the same spot referred to above was very shaky and required a general overhaul.

(7) River crossing with huge deep holes fatal to horse, within a hundred yards near Santhampara bridge.

(8) Several other uncomfortable river crossings between Santhampara and Gudampara, all requiring lifting and repairing.

Dewan's reply.—The representation of the Member will be referred to the Chief Engineer for report.

97. Roads.

Mr. W. A. J. Milner (Member, Central Travancore Planters' Association) submitted that the grant-in-aid allowed at present was Rs. 187-21 chs. per mile which would have been ample but for the high rain-fall of 200 to 250 inches in the year which rendered the up-keep of the roads a difficult and expensive affair. He requested an addition of Rs. 100 per mile which would raise the total grant for $11\frac{3}{4}$ miles by Rs. 1,175.

In regard to the drainage works, the Member represented that, on account of rock-slabs on the sides of the drains, free passage of water was impeded and requested the rocky portions to be blasted so as to deepen the drains.

Coming to the Kottayam-Kumili road, it was urged that, though the progress of the repair work was satisfactory, the portion from the 54th to 57th mile and that near the 59th mile required immediate attention, the whole distance being 5 miles. With the completion of the works mentioned above, there would be a first class road between Kottayam and Kumili. The ghat section, miles 35 to 45, was, no doubt, in good order. But, in some portions, the repairs carried out were not of a permanent nature and should be finished before the monsoon. Another point which deserved attention was that, on the section between the 53rd and 60th miles, the cross and side drains required to be kept clear throughout, as otherwise the money spent on the repairs would be a waste.

Lastly, the Member requested that a commencement of the proposed cart-road from Cheenthalar to Kallar in the High Range be made, as it would open up a large area for tea cultivation and would also provide a very much shorter route from Trivandrum to the High Range.

Dewan's reply.—The representation of the Member will be considered.

Mr. Ankur Mira Rowther (Member, Nominated) complained about the absence of roads in Vandanmettu *pakuthi* for the use of the Cardamom ryots and the coolies employed in the estates. He suggested the opening of the following roads:—

(1) A road from Cumbom to Vandanmettu.
(2) A road from Kumili to Vandanmettu.
(3) A road from Kombay to Udumpanshola.
(4) A road from Thevaram to Santhampara.

He also prayed that steps might be ordered to be taken to prevent the destruction of the plantations by elephants.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS.

98. Suggestions on the general administration of the State.

Mr. K. Narayana Pillai (Member, Vaikom Taluk) first urged the expansion of the Legislative Council on the following lines :—

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